

Segmented SXT Mirror for Constellation-X

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Outline

- Technology demonstration plan
- Process development progress
- Infrastructure development progress
- Issues



Technology Development Plan

- Need to completely rethink mirror design
 Segment length, reflector thickness, mass
- Modular design accommodates progressive buildup
- Develop processes using Astro-E scale (20 cm diameter)
- Engineering model using 50 cm mandrel (inner flight module)
 Demonstrate and refine mounting and alignment approaches
 Ready for X-ray tests in early 2003
- Prototype is progressive build of 3 modules (1 inner, 2 outer)
 Demonstrate use of largest and first segmented mandrels
 Demonstrate module alignment
 First 10 m focal length system
- Build up industrial partnerships and lay groundwork for flight development

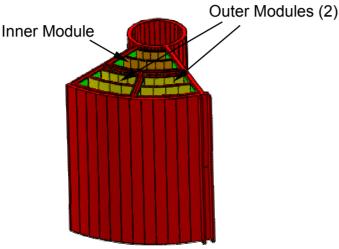


SXT Strawman Design

Engineering Unit



Prototype Unit



Flight Scale Assembly of

- 3 modules (2 outer and 1 inner)
- Largest diameter same as for flight -1.6 m
- Each module has 3 to 9 reflector pairs
- Demonstrates module to module alignment

Reflectors **Flight Unit**

Full flight Assembly

Housing

- 1.6 m outer diameter
- 18 Small Modules
- 70 to 170 reflector diameters

- First modules to be aligned using etched silicon microcombs

Hyperbolic (H) submodules

Single inner module with

- 0.5 m dia. reflector pair

(replicated from Zeiss

precision mandrel)

- Parabolic (P) and



Process Development

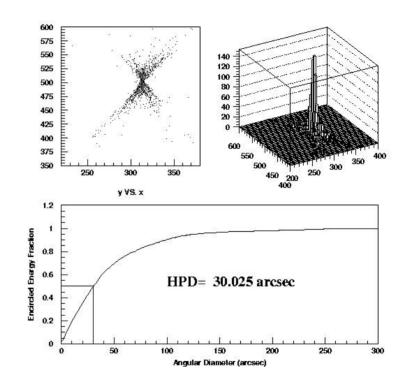
- Producing conical reflectors with azimuthally constant figure
- Angular resolution limited by mandrel quality (using Astro-E mandrels)
- Replication off metal mandrels is problematic (even when passivated)
- Have developed SiO₂ coating process for metal mandrels
 Makes possible use of cylindrically symmetric mandrels for some reflectors
 Allows for parallel mandrel manufacture
- Now have cylindrical and conical secondary mandrel with <10" figure
- Segment cutting process has been refined
- Wolter mandrels are being fabricated
- Beryllium shown to be viable alternative substrate material
- Optical design and analysis code development continues
- Metrology approach being defined for every process step



X-ray measurements of conical glass reflector pairs



Fixture for X-ray and visible light tests of reflector pairs. Reflectors are held at 4 points. Fixture has multiple degrees of freedom;

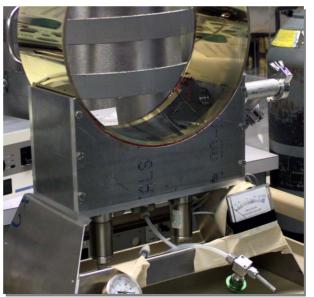


X-ray measurement of fully-illuminated reflector pair yields HPD of 30". Reflectors were replicated using cylindrical Astro-E mandrels. Sources of error include mounting scheme and mandrel figure errors. Error shown to be dominated by mandrel quality



Infrastructure Development

- Geared toward 50 cm replication off Zeiss mandrel and EM
- Large oven has been delivered and assembled
- Portable replication device has been invented and demonstrated
- Feasibility of replicating off Zeiss mandrels studied using Be segments
- Initial glass replication within a month







Issues

Limits of substrate

Length

Figure

Ability to cut accurately

Thickness

Alignment combs

Degree to which imperfect reflectors can be brought into alignment

Design trades

Number of mandrels - can we produce more than one radius reflector?

Do we need to vary the substrate thickness with radius?